

August 2008

Dear Health Care Professional:

The Indiana Birth Defects and Problems Registry (IBDPR) collects information on all children in Indiana from birth to age three with reportable congenital anomalies (up to age five for autism and fetal alcohol syndrome, or FAS). This information is used to monitor the frequency of birth defects in Indiana, detect trends/clusters, develop educational and prevention programs, and establish referral systems.

Physician/provider reports are a vital part of ascertaining this information. The Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH) began collecting birth defects data from physician offices in 2004 using a fax-based system. In an effort to improve data collection from physician offices, ISDH will now utilize a web-based system called the Health Data Center - Gateway.

At this time, all physicians are encouraged to create an account with the Health Data Center – Gateway. Instructions for accessing the Health Data Center – Gateway and creating your account are enclosed, along with a list of reportable conditions with the corresponding ICD-9-CM codes and a poster to display in your office.

You can get more information, including data and statistics, about the IBDPR by visiting the ISDH Genomics and Newborn Screening Program's IBDPR website at [www.in.gov/isdh/20218.htm](http://www.in.gov/isdh/20218.htm). If you have any questions, please call Ruwanthi Silva at (317) 233-7571 or send an e-mail to [asilva@isdh.state.in.us](mailto:asilva@isdh.state.in.us).

Thank you in advance for your continued cooperation in reporting birth defects to the IBDPR.

Sincerely,

Judith A. Monroe, M.D.  
State Health Commissioner